

REMARKS

Claims 14, 16, and 25 are pending in this application. Claims 15 and 17-24 are canceled by the present amendment. No new matter has been added.

Objections

The specification has been amended to reflect that the parent application, to which this application claims priority, is now United States Patent No. 6,780,619. Applicants submit that this obviates the informality and request withdrawal of the objection.

35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1

Claims 17-24 were rejected for allegedly lacking enabling disclosure in the specification. Applicants emphatically disagree with this conclusion but have canceled claims 17-24 solely to further prosecution.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 15 was rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Grifantini et al. (EP 0677535 A1, published 10/18/1995; PTO 892). Applicants believe that this rejection is based on a misinterpretation of the claim; nevertheless, claim 15 is canceled solely to further prosecution.

Applicant : Kazuya Mitsuhashi et al.
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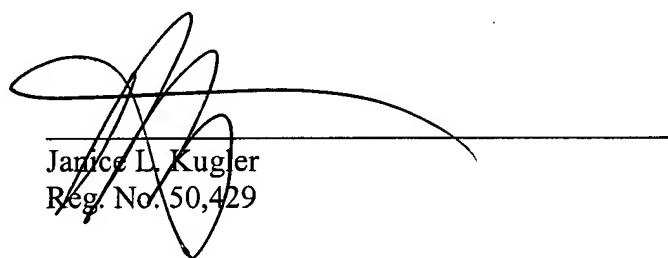
Attorney's Docket No.: 14879-072002 / D1-A0002Y1-
USD1

Applicants note that the Examiner has indicated that claims 14, 16, and 25 are allowable and respectfully request that the Examiner confirm said allowance forthwith.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/3/2004



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